

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 SAJ-01 SAM-01 NIC-01

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 251

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 3817

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, CB

SUBJ: CHINA-CAMBODIA

SUMMARY: IN HIS FIRST SPEECH SINCE THE 10TH PARTY CONGRESS
LAST AUGUST, WANG HUNG-WEN CLOSELY FOLLOWED CHOU'S RECENT
COMMENTS BOTH ON CAMBODIA AND ON THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION.
WANG CITED A NEW MAO TEACHING WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN GIVEN IN
THE CONTEXT OF A LEADERSHIP DEBATE ON REVOLUTION AND DIPLOMACY.
END SUMMARY

1. AT THE APRIL 3 RALLY FOR KHIEU SAMPHAN, CCP VICE CHAIRMAN
WANG HUNG-WEN CLOSELY FOLLOWED THE LINE OF CHOU'S APRIL 1 COMMENTS ON
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CAMBODIA. ALTHOUGH WANG DECLARED THAT "THE ENEMY THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE FACE IS US IMPERIALISM WHICH IS ARMED TO THE TEETH," HE WAS NOT SIGNIFICANTLY HARDER ON THE US ROLE IN CAMBODIA IN GENERAL THAN CHOU HAD BEEN. LIKE CHOU HE WAS CAUTIOUS IN AVOIDING PREDICTIONS ON THE COURSE OF THE WAR AND HE DID NOT DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

2. MOST INTERESTING WAS THE CLOSE PARALLEL OF WANG'S AND CHOU'S REMARKS ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, SPECIFICALLY WANG'S EMPLOYMENT OF THE DIFFERENTIATED APPROACH TO THE THREAT POSED BY THE SUPERPOWERS. MODIFYING HIS WARNING AT THE 10TH PARTY CONGRESS LAST AUGUST OF POSSIBLE "SURPRISE ATTACKS" BY THE US AS WELL AS THE SOVIET UNION, WANG ADOPTED CHOU'S FORMULATION AT THAT TIME WHICH CALLS ONLY FOR VIGILANCE AGAINST A "SURPRISE ATTACK" BY SOCIAL-IMPERIALISM" (I.E., THE USSR).

3. WANG CITED A "RECENT" MAO INSTRUCTION THAT "WE ARE COMMUNISTS AND WE MUST HELP THE PEOPLE--NOT TO HELP THE PEOPLE WOULD BE TO BETRAY MARXISM." THIS IS SIMILAR TO THE MAO-SOUNDING STATEMENT ON SUPPORTING PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLES, WHICH CHOU MADE AT A MARCH 24 BANQUET FOR TANZANIAN PRESIDENT MYERERE (HONG KONG 3433).

4. THE QUOTE IS ALSO REMINISCENT OF A VERY SIMILAR MAO TEACHING REVEALED BY CHOU IN MARCH 1971 IN HANOI WHICH STATED THAT "IF ANYONE AMONG US SHOULD (REFUSE) TO HELP THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE IN THEIR STRUGGLE....THAT WOULD BE BETRAYAL, BETRAYAL OF THE REVOLUTION." THAT STATEMENT IN HINDSIGHT NOW SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A REJOINER TO THOSE WHO HAD CRITICIZED THE DECISION TO MOVE AHEAD ON DETENTE WITH THE US AS TANTAMOUNT TO SELLING OUT THE VIETNAMESE REVOLUTION. (MAO SEEMED TO BE SAYING THAT SINCE HELP WOULD CONTINUE TO BE PROVIDED TO THE VIETNAMESE, THE PURSUIT OF SINO-US DETENTE WAS NOT AN ABANDONMENT OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMITMENT.) WE SUSPECT THAT THE LATEST MAO TEACHING WAS ALSO GIVEN IN THE CONTEXT OF A RECENT DEBATE OVER THE CONSISTENCY OF CHINA'S REVOLUTIONARY COMMITMENT--INCLUDING THAT IN CAMBODIA--WITH ITS PRESENT DIPLOMACY.

5. KHIEU SAMPHAN DISPLAYED NO RESERVATION ABOUT CHINA'S
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SUPPORT FOR THE CAMBODIAN REVOLUTION, DECLARING THAT THE PRC
IS OUR MOST RELIABLE AND SOLID REAR AREA."
CROSS

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